

## Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 INR-10 L-02 SP-02 SAB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 PA-01

PRS-01 /054 W

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R 081715Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1984

INFO PAN CANAL

USCINCSO

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LIMDIS

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PN, PINT

SUBJ: COMMUNIQUE FROM PRESIDENCY

REF: PANAMA 5858

SUMMARY: PANAMA CITY NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED OCTOBER 8 A COMMUNIQUE FROM THE INFORMATION OFFICE OF PRESIDENCY WHICH STATED PRESIDENT LAKAS IS ENJOYING "EXCELLENT HEALTH" AND HAS NO INTENTION OF RESIGNING OFFICE. THE COMMUNIQUE WAS INTENDED TO QUELL RAMPANT RUMORS THAT PRESIDENT WOULD RESIGN. END SUMMARY.

1. FULL TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWS: QUOTE THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS OF THE PRESIDENCY HEREBY ADVISES THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL THAT HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, ENGINEER DEMETRIO B. LAKAS, IS ENJOYING EXCELLENT HEALTH AND IS ATTENDING TO THE OFFICIAL AFFAIRS INHERENT TO HIS HIGH CONSTITUTIONAL RANK.

ALSO, IT ADVISES THAT HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT WILL  
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NOT RESIGN THE OFFICE FOR WHICH HE WAS ELECTED UNANIMOUSLY

BY THE ASSEMBLY OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES, IN  
RECOGNITION OF HIS HONESTY AND LOYALTY TO THE POSTULATES  
OF THE REVOLUTION.

THIS COMMUNIQUE IS ISSUED BY VIRTUE OF THE LARGE  
NUMBER OF CALLS MADE TO THIS OFFICE ON THE SUBJECT. UNQUOTE

2. ANOTHER COMMUNIQUE SIGNED BY MARCELINO JAEN IN HIS  
CAPACITY AS COORDINATOR OF NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WAS  
ALSO PUBLISHED OCTOBER 8. JAEN'S COMMUNIQUE WAS INTENDED  
TO CALM FEARS AND SPECULATION WHICH A CLANDESTINE DOCUMENT  
PURPORTING TO BE A DRAFT BILL TO CREATE A NEW UNIFIED PENSION  
SYSTEM HAD BEEN CAUSING. ALTHOUGH JAEN'S DOCUMENT DID NOT  
DENY THAT GOP MIGHT BE CONTEMPLATING CHANGES IN  
PENSION AND RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR GOP EMPLOYEES, IT DID  
ASSERT THAT BEFORE ANY SUCH PROPOSALS WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR ENACTMENT INTO LAW, EXTENSIVE  
CONSULTATION, AS REQUIRED BY THE CONSTITUTION, WOULD BE  
CARRIED OUT WITH THE AFFECTED SECTORS OF SOCIETY.

3. EACH YEAR AS OCTOBER 11 APPROACHES NUMEROUS RUMORS  
GET STARTED CONCERNING PLANS OR CHANGES IN THE GOP AND AS  
THEY CIRCULATE THEY ARE EMBELLISHED UPON AND EXPANDED. SOME  
OF THE RUMORS ARE CLEARLY INTENDED BY THEIR ORIGINATORS  
TO UNDERMINE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN GOP AND CREATE GENERAL  
STATE OF TENSION. THIS YEAR, THE RUMOR THAT PRESIDENT LAKAS  
WOULD RESIGN WAS BEING ACCEPTED AS TRUTH BY MANY PEOPLE AND  
WAS CAUSING CONCERN. THE PRESIDENCY'S COMMUNIQUE  
SHOULD SERVE TO KILL THIS RUMOR.

JORDEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEDICAL CARE, PRESIDENT, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** elyme  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** PANAMA 5858  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** elyme  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 SEP 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2003 by elyme>  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COMMUNIQUE FROM PRESIDENCY  
**TAGS:** PINT, PN, (LAKAS, DEMETRIO B)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005